

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hartmann et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,525,812.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hartmann et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,525,812.

Hartmann et al. describes an optical arrangement having elements 2, 8, 12 and 13, with the entrance angle of entrance light beam 5 being apparently the same as the exit angle of exit light beam 16. See Fig. 1.

Independent claims 1 and 12 of the present application recite an optical component including "at least two elements that exhibit at least two different refractive indices," wherein "the entrance angle and the exit angle are different," and wherein "the light beam bundle contains light of at least two wavelengths and wherein the exit angle is identical for the light of at least two wavelengths." It is respectfully submitted that Hartmann et al. does not teach all these features of claims 1 and 12. In contrast, In Hartmann et al., light beam 5 enters element 2 at an angle that is apparently not different from the angle that light beam 16 exits element 13. Even if one considers elements 2 and 8, the entrance angle of light beam 5 into element 2 is apparently not different from the angle that the light beams exit element 8. Moreover, even if one considers elements 2 and 12, the exit angles of the light beams exiting element 12 are apparently not identical to each other. Nor are the indices of refraction of any of the elements 2, 8, 12 and 13 taught as being different from any of the others. Because Hartmann et al. fails to teach all the above-recited features of independent claims 1 and 12, it cannot anticipate these claims or their dependent claims.

For at least the above reasons, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

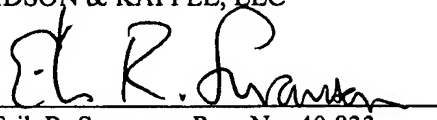
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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